

Everything young drivers need to know about the awesome responsibility of getting behind the wheel. http://www.virginiadot.org/infoservice/resources/AIDbooklet.pdf

April 2003

Dear Colleagues:

This week the Virginia Department of Transportation is observing its sixth annual **Work Zone Awareness Week** by encouraging motorists – particularly young, inexperienced drivers -- to drive safely through highway work zones.

Although work zones are considered the most hazardous place for workers in the United States, they can be even more dangerous for motorists. Statistics show that motorists comprise four out of five deaths in work zone crashes.

Work zones are unavoidable, especially here in Northern Virginia. Gravel, dirt, mud, sudden changes in pavement, potholes, narrow lanes, debris, harsh lighting, loud noises and traffic patterns that change from day to day all conspire to distract drivers in work zones. The best thing to do is to slow down, follow the signs and pay attention to your driving. There is no margin for error.

Young drivers are particularly at risk for crashing in work zones. VDOT's newest publication, Adventures in Driving: Survive the Ride (http://www.virginiadot.org/infoservice/resources/AIDbooklet.pdf), is designed to help teenagers transition from passengers to safe drivers and reduce the high accident and fatality rates in this vulnerable age group. The booklet was created by Steve Titunik, communications director for the Springfield Interchange Improvement Project, and Jennifer Finstein, communications coordinator in our Office of Public Affairs. For hard copies of the booklet, contact Jennifer Finstein, VDOT Office of Public Affairs, 703 383-2850.

Drive safely.

Sincerely,

Tom Farley Thomas.Farley@VirginiaDot.org Northern Virginia District Administrator Virginia Department of Transportation (703) 383-2477

What's New

Route 1 Location Study Public Hearing April 29, 2003

Project C – Telegraph Road to the Capital Beltway in Fairfax County
Mount Vernon High School
8515 Old Mount Vernon Road, Alexandria

Plan to join us anytime between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m., with a presentation at 6 p.m.

This is the third and final public hearing on proposed improvements to the 27-mile Route 1 corridor from the Capital Beltway to the Stafford County line. Due to the length of the corridor, the study has been subdivided into three distinct projects. Hearings were held on March 12 for the 3.3-mile section from Route 123 to Armistead Road and on March 25 for the 11.4-mile segment from the Stafford County line to Route 123.

News Releases

VDOT Installs its First Pedestrian Countdown Timer in N. Va.

VDOT Installs Signal at Prince William Parkway and Ridgewood Center Drive

CTB Awards Paving Contracts

VDOT Begins Next Section of Route 123 Widening this Spring

CTB Awards \$1.6 million for East Market Street Widening in Leesburg

VDOT Begins Safety Improvements at Rolling and Fullerton Roads

VDOT Installs Traffic Signal at Linton Hall Road and Worthington Drive

VDOT Improves Pedestrian Safety Along Reston Parkway

Fairfax County Parkway Earns Top Award

April 6-12 is Work Zone Safety Week

American Traffic Safety Services Association http://www.atssa.com/

National Work Zone Safety Information Clearinghouse http://wzsafety.tamu.edu/

Virginia Department of Transportation http://virginiadot.org/comtravel/prog-wzsa-default.asp



For more information about Fairfax County projects contact

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Projects to be Advertised for Construction Bids within the next 12 months Note: Construction typically begins three to four months after a project is advertised.

Burke Lake Road Widen from two to four lane from Lee Chapel Road to the Fairfax County Parkway (1.2 miles). Ad date: Dec. 2003

Dulles Toll Road Modify Smart Tag lanes at both Route 28 and the Main Toll Plaza. This will include upgrading toll collection equipment and signage for Smart Tag lanes. The existing Smart Tag lane at Route 28 North will be improved to an open toll lane. Ad date: July 2003.

Dulles Toll Road Widen ramps from one to two lanes both to and from the Capital Beltway. Ad date; April 2003.

Glebe Road Install left turn lanes on Glebe Road at Columbia Pike. Ad date, Dec. 2003

Interstate 395 Enhance signage from Washington Boulevard to the District of Columbia line. Ad date, Dec. 2003

Interstate 495 Erect a sound wall, 2,089 feet in length, on the inner loop of the Capital Beltway just north of Old Dominion Drive at West Langley. Ad date: Jan. 2004.

Lorton Road Widen from two to six lanes from Route 1 to Silverbrook Road including a new bridge over Pohick Creek (1.06 miles). Ad date: Dec. 2003.

Pleasant Valley Road Straighten curves north and south of Braddock Road, and north of Martins Hundred Road. Ad date: July 2003.

Route 1 Widen from four to six lanes from south of Lorton Road to north of Telegraph Road (1.2 miles). Ad date: July 2003 (contingent on roadway easement from Ft. Belvoir).

Route 123 Widening

- Phase 1 Burke Lake Road to Lee Chapel Road (2.4 miles) is under construction
- Phase 2 Lee Chapel Road to Davis Drive (2.5 miles) is under construction.
- Phase 3 Widen from two to six lanes from Davis Drive to the Occoquan River Bridge (1.9 miles). Includes landscaping. Ad date: Dec. 2002.
- Phase 4 Replace two-lane bridge over the Occoquan River with a six-lane bridge and widen approaches.
 Ad date: July 2003.

Springfield Interchange Final phases (Phases 6 and 7) of project. Ad date: June 2003. (http://www.springfieldinterchange.com/)

West Ox Road Widen from two to four lanes from Ox Trail to Lawyers Road (1.1 mile). Ad date: Sept. 2003.

Woodrow Wilson Bridge (Va. Projects) (http://www.wilsonbridge.com/)

- Build new Washington Street overpass to span wider Beltway. Begins early 2003.
- Starting spring 2003, Washington Street approaching and over the Beltway will transition from four lanes to three, with a reversible lane maintaining two lanes in the direction of dominant traffic flow (e.g. northbound in the morning)
- Build new Beltway tie-in to future bridge. Begins mid 2003.
- Build bridges over Cameron Run and Hunting Creek to line up with widened Beltway. Begins mid 2003
- Demolish three Hunting Terrace buildings and two office buildings. Begins mid 2003.
- Construct new Route 1 interchange. Begins late 2003.
- Widen Beltway between Route 1 and Telegraph Road. Begins late 2003.

Fairfax and Arlington County Projects Under Construction

Beulah Street Widen from two to four lanes between the Franconia-Springfield Parkway and Franconia Road (1.3 miles). Completion, summer 2004. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-BeulahStreet.asp)

Barnsfield Road and Route 28 Interchange Partial cloverleaf to provide access to the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum. Interchange will be open prior to the opening of the Museum in Dec. 2003. (http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-barnesfield.asp)

Dulles Toll Road at Spring Hill Road Expanding toll plaza at the westbound Spring Hill Road entrance from one lane to three. Smart Tag can be used in all three lanes. Completion, spring 2003. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-dulles_plaza.asp)

Rolling and Fullerton Roads Align intersection and add turn lanes. When completed, motorists will be able to use Fullerton Road through the Industrial Park. Completion, fall 2003. (http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-Rolling FullertonRd.asp)

Route 28 Improvements Under the Public-Private Partnership Act, The Clark Construction Group, Inc. and Shirley Contracting Company, LLC will design and construct six high-capacity interchanges on Route 28 in Fairfax and Loudoun counties over the next four years. (http://www.28freeway.com/)

Route 123 Widening Phase 1 Widening Route 123 to four lanes divided from Burke Lake Road to Lee Chapel Road (2.4 miles). Completion, end of 2003. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-rt123widening.asp)

Route 123 Widening Phase 2 Widening Route 123 to four lanes divided from Lee Chapel Road to Davis Drive (2.5 miles). Completion, summer 2004. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-123ph2.asp)

Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Site and support work for construction of the new Museum south of Dulles International Airport. Includes completing service roads, haul roads, taxi pad, utilities, and visitor and bus parking lots. Completion, summer 2003. (http://www.nasm.si.edu/nasm/ext/)

Springfield Interchange Construction is now focused on the Beltway between Van Dorn Street and Braddock Road. For lane closures, maps, photos and commuter options please visit springfieldinterchange.com. (http://www.springfieldinterchange.com/)

Van Dorn Street Safety Improvements New sidewalks, curb and gutter, roadway lighting, business entrances, and a raised, landscaped concrete median will be added. Completion, summer 2003. (http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-vandorn-safety.asp)

Woodrow Wilson Bridge (Va. projects) Soil strengthening and stabilization work started Dec. 2001 and will continue until mid-2004. Demolition of one Hunting Tower building and two adjacent garages began in March 2003. (http://www.wilsonbridge.com/)

Fairfax and Arlington County Projects Completed Since 2001

Burke Centre Parkway Widened from two to four lanes between Marshall Pond Road and Burke Lake Road. Improvements included dedicated left and right turn lanes, sidewalks, and a multi-purpose trail for pedestrians and bicyclists, a new drainage system and signal improvements to help traffic flow. (http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-burke-ctr-pkwy.asp)

Columbia Pike Bridge over Four-Mile Run Replaced original bridge; widened sidewalk on south side of bridge; replaced and repaired drainage systems; constructed approach slabs. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/arlington-columbiapikebridge.asp)

Fairfax County Parkway Completion of the northern section of the Fairfax County Parkway gives motorists a continuous four and six-lane highway from Route 7 in Dranesville to Beulah Street in Kingstowne. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-ctyparkway.asp)

Lorton Road Traffic back-ups at the Lorton Road underpass have eased since the road was widened from one to two lanes. The 70-year-old CSX bridge over Lorton Road was replaced with a 227-foot long bridge. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-lorton.asp)

Lorton Road Park-and-Ride Constructed a new 170-space lot located just east of I-95. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-lortonrd-parkride.asp)

Old Dominion Drive Bridge The 50-year-old bridge over Pimmit Run Creek on Old Dominion Drive in McLean has been improved and is open to motorists. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-olddom.asp)

Route 28/Route 29 Interchange Construction of a grade-separated interchange in Centreville is now complete. Now, Route 28 traffic flows uninterrupted under Route 29 and both roads have six through lanes and additional turn lanes. (http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-rt2829.asp)

Springfield Interchange Improvement Project Phases 2 and 3, which focused on improvements to I-95, Route 644 and other local roads in Springfield, were completed in late 2001. (http://www.springfieldinterchange.com/)

Stringfellow Road Park—and-Ride Constructed a 387-space lot adjacent to the I-66 HOV Lanes. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-stringfellowp-r.asp)

Sydenstricker Road Park—and-Ride Constructed a 170-space lot at the corner of Sydenstricker Rd and Hooes Road, just off the Fairfax County Parkway. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-sydenstricker.asp)

Telegraph Road Widening Widened from two lanes to four lanes with a 16-foot median and two four-foot bicycle lanes from Beulah Street to Route 1 (2.5 miles). (http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/fairfax-telegraph.asp)





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Potomac View Road (Route 637) Improve 1200 feet of roadway to provide 12-foot lanes and construct right and left turn lanes at entrance to First Baptist Church. Ad date: March 2004.

Red Bud Lane (Route 1505) Upgrade from a dirt road to a paved road from Route 1504 to one mile south of Route 1504. Construction will begin in spring 2003.

Shelburne Glebe Road (Route 729) Replace temporary bridge with permanent bridge over North Fork Goose Creek located .66 miles north of North Fork Road (Route 728). Ad date: May 2003

Ticonderoga Road (Route 613) Improve and realign intersection at Route 659. Ad date: Oct. 2003

Loudoun County Projects Under Construction

Loudoun Orchard Road (Route 662) Upgrade dirt road to a paved road from intersection of Mt. Gilead Road (Route 797) to 0.38 miles South of Route 729 (1.3 miles). This is a pilot project under VDOT's new Rural Rustic Road Program. Construction expected to begin in mid-April and be completed by June 2003.

Lime Kiln Road Upgrading from gravel to asphalt and realigning roadway to improve sight distance (2.1 miles). Completion, spring 2003. (http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-limekiln.asp)

Old Ox Road (Route 606) Widen from two to four lanes between Route 50 and Evergreen Mills Road/Route 621 (.81 miles) and improve drainage. A traffic signal will be installed at Route 621. Completion, fall 2003.

Route 15 Safety improvements between Balls Bluff Road and White's Ferry Road (1.7 miles)). Completion, summer 2003. (http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-rt15-ballsbluff-whitesferry.asp)

Loudoun County Projects Completed Since 2001

Dulles North Transit Center A 750-space commuter Park-and-Ride lot has been constructed at the Dulles Greenway and Route 606. (http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-rt606p-r.asp)

Route 7 Crews added an additional lane in each direction between Cedar Drive and Dranesville Road. (http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-rt7.asp)

Route 28 Crews widened Route 28 and added two dedicated left-turn lanes onto Route 606 in Loudoun County. (http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-rt28.asp)

Route 50 Bridge at Aldie Repair work is complete for the 180-year old stone arch bridge on Route 50 over Little River near the Aldie Mill, in Loudoun County. (http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-aldie.asp)

Route 287 VDOT crews eliminated the curve on Berlin Road to improve sight distance for motorists approaching the intersection. (http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-rt287.asp)

South Church Street A half-mile section of South Church Street between Lovettsville Road and Berlin Turnpike was widened to improve safety. (http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-sthchurch.asp)

Taylorstown Road Upgraded from a gravel road to a paved road between Furnace Mountain Road and Wilt Store Road. (http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-taylorstown.asp

Woodburn Road VDOT upgraded Woodburn Road from gravel to asphalt and realigned sections to improve sight distance, and added drainage and other safety features. (http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/loudoun-woodburn.asp)





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Dumfries Road (Route 234) Widen from two to four lanes between Snowfall Road and Eclipse Drive (3.2 miles). Ad date: July 2003.

Ingram Drive Pave gravel road from 75 feet north of Chestnut Creek to Logmill Road (.77 miles). Ad date: July 2003.

Route 123 Occoquan River Bridge Replace existing bridge with new six-lane bridge and widen approaches. Ad date: July 2003.

Wellington Road Rail Crossing near Rt. 29 Improve approach and install concrete crossing. Work by railroad to begin April 2003.

Prince William County Projects Under Construction

Partridge Road Construct a pedestrian bridge over the CSX Railroad from Veterans Memorial Park to Partridge Road. Completion, fall 2003.

Route 234 Widening Widen from two lanes to four lanes divided from Purcell Road to Snowfall Drive (2.5 miles). Completion spring 2003. (http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-rt234wide2.asp)

Route 234 Bypass Construct sound wall adjacent to the Great Oaks Subdivision. Completion fall 2003.

Prince William County Projects Completed Since 2001

Horner Road Park-and-Ride Lot Expansion Completed the largest commuter lot in Virginia, with 2,267 spaces added by VDOT and the county. (http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-horner-ParkRide.asp)

I-95 Bridge over Route 619 The 36-year-old north and southbound bridges over Route 619 were replaced with new bridges and shoulders wide enough to accommodate future travel lanes. (http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-I95rt619.asp)

I-95 Bridges over Quantico Creek The 40-year-old north and southbound bridges over Quantico Creek were reconstructed with new bridge piers and widened shoulders. The bridges are wide enough to accommodate future travel lanes. (http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-I95quantico.asp)

I-95/Route 234 Interchange The former diamond interchange is now a partial cloverleaf with loops in the northeast and southwest quadrants. The Route 234 bridge over I-95 has been widened and the acceleration and deceleration lanes on I-95 were lengthened. (http://virginiadot.org//projects/nova/prwilliam-I95rt234.asp)

Route 29/234 Intersection Safety Improvements Safety Improvements in the Manassas National Battlefield Park included adding left-turn lanes to each leg of the intersection, improving sight distance on Route 234, installing a pedestrian bridge, a crosswalk and traffic signals, and re-timing traffic signals. (http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-rt29-rt234-safety.asp)

Route 234 Bypass Construction of a 10-mile, four-lane bypass west of Manassas is complete. The bypass runs from I-66 to Brentsville Road where it connects with existing Route 234. (http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-rt234byp.asp)

Route 234 Widening Route 234 was widened from a two-lane roadway to a four-lane, divided highway. (http://virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-rt234wide.asp)

Route 234/Route 1 Park-and Ride Constructed a 360-space lot near Route 1-95. (http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/nova/prwilliam-I95-123.asp)

Major Transportation Studies

Tri-County Parkway Location Study

(http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/tcp.asp)

VDOT is evaluating a new north/south transportation link to connect the City of Manassas with I-66 and the Dulles Corridor. More than 200 citizens attended information meetings held in Loudoun, Prince William and Fairfax counties during December 2002. The study team shared preliminary alternatives and sought public input. The study team is currently reviewing the initial range of conceptual alternatives to determine build alternatives for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Capital Beltway Study

(http://project1.parsons.com/capitalbeltway/)

In March 2002, the Federal Highway Administration approved the draft environmental impact statement for improvements to the 14-mile section between the Springfield Interchange and the American Legion Bridge. More than 1,000 citizens attended the public hearings held on May 28, 29 and 30, 2002. VDOT is developing a recommendation to be presented to the Commonwealth Transportation in 2003.

I-66 Multimodal Transportation and Environmental Study

(http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/studynova-rt66.asp)

VDOT and the Department of Rail and Public Transportation are identifying possible highway, rail and bus improvements along the 24-mile corridor from the Capital Beltway to Route 15 at Haymarket. The Environmental Impact Study is expected to be complete in 2004. Public information meetings are tentatively scheduled for late 2003 or early 2004.

Route 1 Location Study

(http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/studynova-rt1.asp)

VDOT is developing environmental assessments for improving the 27-mile corridor from the Stafford County line to the Capital Beltway. Due to the length of the corridor the study is divided into three sections. Hearings were held on March 12 for the 3.3-mile section from Route 123 to Armistead Road and on March 25 for the 11.4-mile segment from the Stafford County line to Route 123. The third and final public hearing is scheduled for April 29 at Mount Vernon High School from 5-8 p.m.

Route 50 Traffic Calming Project

(http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/studynova-rt50.asp)

On February 20, 2003, VDOT approved the major design features for the Route 50 Traffic Calming project in Fauquier and Loudoun Counties. VDOT and the Route 50 Traffic Calming Task Force are developing construction plans that will implement the concepts to calm traffic, enhance the scenic beauty and historic nature of the area and provide for enhanced pedestrian safety and accessibility along the corridor.

Western Transportation Corridor

(http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/study-wtc-default.asp)

The purpose of the study is to evaluate the need for and effects of transportation improvement options in the Western Washington, D.C. metropolitan region. The Study Team is identifying preliminary corridors and evaluating travel demand within these corridors; modeling 2030 travel demand within corridors; and preparing a Transportation Demand Management alternative. The study team will present preliminary corridors and the associated demand volumes for each at public meetings to be held during 2003.

Non-VDOT Studies:

Dulles Corridor Rapid Transit

(http://www.dullestransit.com/)

The Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation intends to submit a formal request to the Federal Transit Administration to begin preliminary engineering on the Metrorail extension in April 2003. Work on the project's Final Environmental Impact Statement is underway; publication expected in early 2004.

Capital Beltway Rail Feasibility Study

(http://www.drpt.state.va.us/projects/previous/bwr.asp)

Study completed in April 2001 by the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation

Manassas National Battlefield Park Bypass Study

(http://www.battlefieldbypass.com)

The Federal Highway Administration and National Park Service are developing and evaluating alternatives to allow for closing portions of Route 29 and 234 in the Park. A public workshop was held Dec. 12, 2002 for citizens to learn more about the project and provide input. The next public workshop is anticipated late spring 2003.